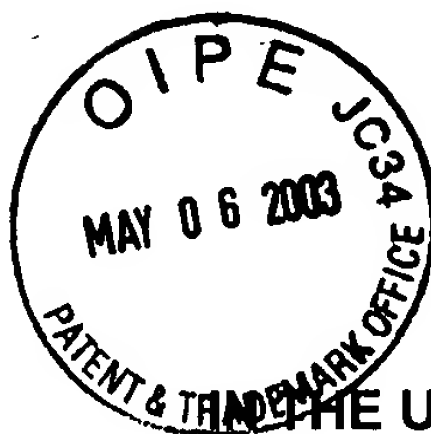


Serial No.: 09/559,259

Amend 8/B
Lowman
Docket No.: 1405.1020
5-17-03



RESPONSE AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3621
Docket No.: 1405.1020

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hideyuki HIRANO et al.

Serial No. 09/559,259

Group Art Unit: 3621

Confirmation No. 2237

Filed: April 27, 2000

Examiner: James A. Reagan

For: DATA MANAGEMENT METHOD

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GROUP 3600

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Attention: **BOX AF**
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This is in response to the Office Action mailed February 7, 2003, and having a period for response set to expire on May 7, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested because the amendments and remarks clarify the patentably distinguishing features of the present invention over the relied upon references.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **REPLACE** claims 1-3 and 5-17 as follows.

Amend 8/B
6-17-03
Sub
B
1. (ONCE AMENDED) A data management method comprising:
preparing a substantive data unit by encrypting digital content that is for distribution;
extracting a portion of the digital content as sample data, and preparing a sample data unit wherein authorization information containing information for accessing the encrypted digital content is embedded as invisible information in the sample data unit; and

AF/3621



S&H Form: (01/03)

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| REPLY/AMENDMENT FEE TRANSMITTAL | Attorney Docket No. | 1405.1020 | |
| | Application Number | 09/559,259 | |
| | Filing Date | April 27, 2000 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Hideyuki HIRANO et al. | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3621 | |
| AMOUNT ENCLOSED | \$0.00 | Examiner Name | James A. Reagan |

| FEE CALCULATION (fees effective 01/01/03) | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| CLAIMS AS AMENDED | Claims Remaining After Amendment | Highest Number Previously Paid For | Number Extra | Rate | Calculations |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 26 | - 26 = | 0 | X \$ 18.00 = | \$ 0.00 |
| INDEPENDENT CLAIMS | 3 | - 3 = | 0 | X \$ 84.00 = | 0.00 |
| Since an Official Action set an <u>original</u> due date of <u>May 7, 2003</u> , petition is hereby made for an extension to cover the date this reply is filed for which the requisite fee is enclosed (1 month (\$110); 2 months (\$410); 3 months (\$930); 4 months (\$1,450); 5 months (\$1,970)): | | | | | |
| If Notice of Appeal is enclosed, add (\$320) | | | | | |
| If Statutory Disclaimer under Rule 20(d) is enclosed, add fee (\$110) | | | | | |
| Total of above Calculations = | | | | | \$ 0.00 |
| Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (37 CFR 1.9, 1.27 & 1.28) | | | | | |
| TOTAL FEES DUE = | | | | | \$ 0.00 |

- (1) If entry (1) is less than entry (2), entry (3) is "0".
- (2) If entry (2) is less than 20, change entry (2) to "20".
- (4) If entry (4) is less than entry (5), entry (6) is "0".
- (5) If entry (5) is less than 3, change entry (5) to "3".

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MAY 08 2003

| METHOD OF PAYMENT | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Check enclosed as payment. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Charge "TOTAL FEES DUE" to the Deposit Account No. below. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No payment is enclosed and no charges to the Deposit Account are authorized at this time (unless specifically required to obtain a filing date). |

GROUP 3600

| GENERAL AUTHORIZATION | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | If the above-noted "AMOUNT ENCLOSED" is not correct, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fees necessary to: Deposit Account No. <u>19-3935</u> Deposit Account Name <u>STAAS & HALSEY LLP</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The Commissioner is also authorized to credit any overpayments or charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 (filing fees) or 37 CFR 1.17 (processing fees) during the prosecution of this application, including any related application(s) claiming benefit hereof pursuant to 35 USC § 120 (e.g., continuations/divisionals/CIPs under 37 CFR 1.53(b) and/or continuations/divisionals/CPAs under 37 CFR 1.53(d)) to maintain pendency hereof or of any such related application. |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
| SUBMITTED BY: STAAS & HALSEY LLP | | | |
| Typed Name | Mehdi D. Sheikerz | Reg. No. | 41,307 |
| Signature | | Date | May 6, 2003 |